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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/893,394	06/29/2001	Katsuto Koyama	109806	6005

25944 7590 12/06/2004

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EXAMINER

MAKI, STEVEN D

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

1733

DATE MAILED: 12/06/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Advisory Action

Application No.

09/893,394

Applicant(s)

KOYAMA ET AL.

Examiner

Steven D. Maki

Art Unit

1733

--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

THE REPLY FILED 17 November 2004 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE. Therefore, further action by the applicant is required to avoid abandonment of this application. A proper reply to a final rejection under 37 CFR 1.113 may only be either: (1) a timely filed amendment which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a timely filed Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee); or (3) a timely filed Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114.

PERIOD FOR REPLY [check either a) or b)]

- a) ☒ The period for reply expires 3 months from the mailing date of the final rejection.
- b) ☐ The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection.
- ONLY CHECK THIS BOX WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

1. ☐ A Notice of Appeal was filed on _____. Appellant's Brief must be filed within the period set forth in 37 CFR 1.192(a), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 1.191(d)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal.
2. ☐ The proposed amendment(s) will not be entered because:
- (a) ☐ they raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);
- (b) ☐ they raise the issue of new matter (see Note below);
- (c) ☐ they are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or
- (d) ☐ they present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

NOTE: _____

3. ☒ Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): 112 second paragraph rejection.
4. ☐ Newly proposed or amended claim(s) _____ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).
5. ☒ The a) ☐ affidavit, b) ☐ exhibit, or c) ☒ request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: see advisory action attachment.
6. ☐ The affidavit or exhibit will NOT be considered because it is not directed SOLELY to issues which were newly raised by the Examiner in the final rejection.
7. ☒ For purposes of Appeal, the proposed amendment(s) a) ☐ will not be entered or b) ☒ will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.

The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:

Claim(s) allowed: _____

Claim(s) objected to: _____

Claim(s) rejected: 1, 2 and 7-11

Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: _____

8. ☐ The drawing correction filed on _____ is a) ☐ approved or b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
9. ☐ Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____
10. ☐ Other: _____

advisory action attachment

The 112 second paragraph rejection set forth in paragraph 2 of the last office action dated 8-20-04 has been withdrawn in view of the amendment to claim 1 in the after final amendment filed 11-17-04.

With respect to the 102 / 103 rejection over Sergel et al (paragraph 5 of last office action dated 8-20-04), applicant argues that Sergel et al does not disclose having an electrically conductive layer sandwiched between the low electrically conductive rubber that is formed in two parts. This argument is not persuasive since Sergel et al teaches forming a carbon black reinforced layer (electrically conductive layer) between silica reinforced parts (two parts made from low electrically conductive rubber). As can be seen from figure 2, Sergel et al teaches an "electrically conductive layer" formed from a carbon black reinforced strip 2b and sandwiching this "electrically conductive layer" between two parts of "low electrically conductive rubber" that is formed from silica reinforced strips 2a. One of the silica reinforced parts is at a side end of the tread and the other silica reinforced parts is at the equatorial plane of the tire. The third silica reinforced part at the other side end of the tread is not excluded by the claims. The carbon black reinforced layer is at a "middle position" since it is located between the ends of the tread. Sergel et al's disclosure to use the different strips to form "alternating areas" (paragraph 14) also teaches forming a carbon black reinforced layer (electrically conductive layer) between silica reinforced parts (two parts made from low electrically conductive rubber).

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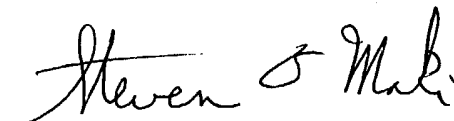
With respect to 103 rejections using secondary art, applicant argues that Europe '452 does not teach winding the conductive insert. The examiner agrees that Europe '452 discloses forming a conductive carbon black reinforced portion (e.g. insert 12) between silica reinforced parts of a tread to form an electrical path through the tread for static discharge and adds that Sergel suggests winding a carbon black reinforced strip to form a conductive path through a tread for static discharge. See paragraph 12 of Sergel et al.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Steven D. Maki whose telephone number is (571) 272-1221. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon. - Fri. 7:30 AM - 4:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Blaine Copenheaver can be reached on (571) 272-1156. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Steven D. Maki
December 2, 2004


STEVEN D. MAKI
PRIMARY EXAMINER
~~GROUP 1300~~
Av 1733
12-2-04